MAYOR DAVID R. MARTIN



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROBERT MISLOW, MHA, LNHA

TEL: (203) 322-3428 FAX: (203) 977-5524 Email: <u>RMislow@StamfordCT.gov</u>

CITY OF STAMFORD SMITH HOUSE SKILLED NURSING FACILITY 88 ROCKRIMMON ROAD STAMFORD, CT 06903-2817

October 20, 2015

Mr. Christopher A. Lavigne
Director of Reimbursement and Certificate of Need
Department of Social Services
State of Connecticut
55 Farmington Ave
Hartford, Connecticut 06105

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DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF CON AND RATE SETTINGS

Re: Smith House Skilled Nursing Facility – Letter of Intent to Request a CON

Dear Mr. Lavigne:

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 17b-352, please accept this notification as a letter of intent requesting all necessary documents and forms for a certificate of need application. The mounting financial losses, nearly \$6 million last fiscal year, are unsustainable and the primary driver of this request. It is our belief that there are sufficient available beds in the surrounding areas to ensure continuity of care to residents. We are submitting the following statutorily required information in connection with this request:

- (1) Name of Applicant: City of Stamford as license holder of Smith House Skilled Nursing Facility, 88 Rockrimmon Road, Stamford, Connecticut 06903;
- (2) The application is for termination of authorized service and 100% of bed capacity (128 beds);
- (3) There is no capital cost associated with this intent;
- (4) Smith House is located at 88 Rockrimmon Road in Stamford, Connecticut:
- (5) A brief description of the proposed closure project is as follows:

The purpose of this plan is for the City of Stamford to safely and properly close Smith House SNF, while following state and federal laws, upholding resident rights, quality care and keeping the interests of residents, families and employees in the forefront. To achieve the overall goal of helping residents move to a new residence while minimizing relocation stress, all parties involved must:

- Remain focused on best outcomes for residents
- Communicate that until the State of Connecticut approves the CON closure request no resident may be transferred, unless initiated by them or their family
- Assure that residents' choices and preferences are considered and honored
- Acknowledge the resident's and staff's feelings of loss, mistrust or confusion

- Contribute to a resident focused approach necessary for a successful relocation process
- Insure safe and timely transfer of residents to new residences
- Conduct business in a professional and collaborative manner
- Support the daily routines of residents and nursing facility operations
- Create a blameless environment focusing on positive outcomes and solutions

Additionally (as is also required pursuant to C.G.S. sec. 17b-352(c)), we are notifying the Office of Long Term Care Ombudsman, Ms. Kimberly Massey, and all Smith House patients/residents and/or responsible parties of this request for a certificate of need (CON) application to terminate skilled nursing care services at Smith House. A copy of our notice to residents is enclosed herewith. A copy of the Notice of the CON request will be prominently posted at the front desk of the facility today.

The Office of Long Term Care Ombudsman is being informed via a copy of this letter at the following address:

Ms. Kimberly Massey Office of Ombudsman Western Region 1057 Broad Street Bridgeport, CT 06604

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Attached is the written notice we are providing simultaneously to the patients/residents, responsible parties, guarantors and next of kin and this letter will be posted in prominent view at the facility.

The contact persons for additional information at The Smith House are Robert M. Mislow, Executive Director and John Panicek, Consultant. They can be reached at (203) 322-3428. We plan to hold resident and family meetings in order to answer questions that may arise. The meetings will be scheduled as follows:

- Wednesday, October 21 at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 24 at 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

David R. Martin

Mayor, City of Stamford

Enclosures:

Letter dated October 20, 2015 from Mayor David R. Martin to Smith House Patients/Residents, Guardians, Next of Kin, Families, Responsible Parties and/or Conservators

cc (with enclosures): Ms. Kimberly Massey, Office of Long Term Care Ombudsman, 1057 Broad Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604